(i) INMARSAT-P

—New Company (ICO-Global Communications Ltd.) promoted by INMARSAT. VSNL proposes to invest in this venture.

(ii) IRIDIUM :

—Promoted by Motorola Corporation of USA. Indian Financial institutions headed by IL&FS plan to invest in this project.

(iii) GLOBAL STAR :

—Promoted by Loral Corporation and Qualcomm of USA.

(iv) ODYSSEY :

—Promoted by TRW of USA and supported by Teleglobe of Canada.

(v) ELLIPSO SYSTEM :

—Promoted by Mobile Communications Holding Inc. of USA.

(vi) ASIA MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS (AMT) :

—Regional Mobile Statellite System promoted by a Singapore based private company.

In addition, DOT proposes to set up a satellite based mobile telephone system within the cuntry using INSAT.

Environmental clearance of Irrigation and Industrial projects of Karnataka

*328. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Irrigation and Industrial projects proposed by the Karnataka Government which are held up for want of Environmental clearance;

(b) the duration for which these projects have been pending with the Ministry; and

(c) the duration of time the Ministry takes to clear projects and the reasons for the delay in giving clearances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) No Irrigation and Industrial projects proposed by the Karnataka Government are held up for pendency of environmental clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. However, one thermal power project at Chamalapura was referred in August, 1994 by the State owned Karnataka Poper Corporation Limited (KPCL). Later KPCL informed that the project is likely to be implemented in the private sector. In view of the uncertainty with regard to the implementing agency could be identified. Implementing agency has not yet been identified by the KPC.

(c) A final decision on the clearances of the project proposals is taken within a stipulated time period of 90 days from the date of receipt of all requisite information and relevant details from the project proponents.

Seminar on National Forestry Action Plan

*329. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a Seminar was held recently on the National Forestry Action Plan;

(b) if, so whether any report has been prepared; if so, what are the main recommendations contained therein;

(c) whether Government are satisfied with the recommendations, if so, what steps have been taken to implement the recommendations; and

(d) how much barren land has been brought under social forestry projects in the country during the last three years?